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**UD'S TOM FRERICKS HOMECOMING 5K RUN/WALK
WILL BEGIN AT 10 A.M. SATURDAY, OCT. 17**

DAYTON, Ohio — This year's Thomas J. Frericks Homecoming 5K Walk/Run will start and finish in front of the building that honors the race's namesake.

"We thought it only made sense to move the race's beginning and end to the building named after Mr. Frericks," explained Richard Munn, assistant director of alumni relations and organizer of the event. "This is one of the ways we remember Tom Frericks and what he meant to the University of Dayton."

The run/walk, in its sixth year, will begin at 10 a.m. Saturday, Oct. 17, in front of the Frericks Athletic and Convocation Center. Early registration is \$12 and includes a souvenir T-shirt (\$5 without shirt). Registration on race day is from 8:30 to 9:45 a.m. and is \$15 with T-shirt and \$8 without shirt. Teams of five can sign up for \$50, which includes shirts.

Noncompetitive runners and walkers of all ages are welcome, said Munn, adding that the run/walk will take place regardless of weather conditions. A post-race party begins at 11 a.m., which will include an awards ceremony on the Albert Emanuel Hall lawn.

No longer a staggered-start competition (where slower runners start before faster ones), all entrants will start the run/walk at the same time this year, Munn said.

While last year's race attracted 250 runners and walkers, Munn is shooting for 400 this year. "We'd like to see the event get bigger every year. This is a wonderful opportunity for those connected with UD — from freshmen to the Golden Flyers, and faculty, staff and other students — to come together and mingle."

A former University athletic director and administrator, Frericks was instrumental in overseeing the construction of UD arena. The 1953 UD graduate was a leader within the NCAA and was recognized nationally for his work to improve intercollegiate athletics. He died of cancer, at the age of 59, in 1992.

"Mr. Frericks, for many years, was considered 'Mr. UD,'" Munn says. "Whenever you thought of UD you thought of him."

The race is sponsored by UD's National Alumni Association. For registration information, call UD's alumni relations office at (937) 229-3299.

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